

## **BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1 September 2011 at 7.30pm in the Community Rooms, The Street, Birdbrook PC**

PRESENT: Mr R Bolton (Chairman)  
Mrs H Hodge  
Mrs A Beetson  
Mr S Rhenius  
Mr D Hoye  
Mr L Carter

Officers – Mrs D Hilliard, Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

#### **11/57 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr T R Walker, Cllr D Finch

#### **11/58 OTHER ABSENCES**

None

#### **11/59 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed.

#### **11/60 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Robert Bolton declared a personal and prejudicial interest regarding the quotes received for repair and maintenance work on the benches (item 11/69 below). He also declared an interest in item 8 of the agenda – Planning (item 11/63 below).

#### **11/61 COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORT OF THE CLERK**

Deborah Hilliard, the clerk, had 3 items to report:-

*Storage of files* – Debbie reported she had now collected the archive files from Susan de Luca. However, she had nowhere to store them. It was suggested that Essex Archives might be able to help.

*Cilca* – Debbie reported she had now passed the Cilca qualification. She has also started to compile the Quality Status portfolio with the aim of bringing it to the December panel for consideration.

*Cluster* – Debbie had received an email from the Clerk to Toppesfield parish council suggesting a meeting of local parishes in September, similar to the Cluster meetings which used to take place. Birdbrook are happy to attend. Debbie will email Toppesfield clerk.

#### **11/62 DOCUMENTS ON DEPOSIT**

As follows:-

Making the Links (Aug)

Noted

EALC July & Aug updates	Noted
Essex Police updated	Noted
Essex Heritage News	Noted
Oyster Magazine	Noted
Sovereign play equip	Noted
The Playing Field newsletter	Noted
R&RA Essex	Noted
Broadband letter	Noted
Letter from ECC Highways re extra Salt	Ann will approach Mr Rook about the possibility of storing the salt on his premises.
Jubilee Oak	Robert suggested that this be put in the village magazine asking for suggestions for a suitable site. The best site may be the green. Debbie will order an oak tree.
Diamond Jubilee	Ideas needed for any village events. This could incorporate the suggestion for a series of beacons.

### 11/63 MEMBERS REPORTS

*Pond* – The pond looks clean and in good order but the borders are overgrown and need trimming back. There are 10 ducks. Derek and Leigh will cut the edges back. Derek has been looking at the suggestion to install a duck island and suggested that a floating island would probably be the best option.

*Park* – The play equipment has been scribbled over in black marker pen. Derek suggested buying a tin of barn black which could paint over the writing and stop it from happening again. The cost would be approximately £50 for a tin. Agreed.

*Chairman* – Mr Walker not in attendance. Any matters would be reported to the November meeting.

*Highways* – The VAS signs at Baythorne End are all working apart from one, which has been reported. Robert will follow this up. Mr Boutall's hedge is overgrowing onto the pavement and needs trimming. Hazel will approach him to see if it can be trimmed back

*Passenger Transport* – Nothing to report.

### 11/64 PLANNING

Two applications were considered:-

11/1157/LBC – The Plough, The Street, Birdbrook – No comment

11/1169/OUT – Westrope Haulage Yard, Sturmer Road, New England – The plans were circulated and comments will be returned to BDC shortly once members had fully considered the plans.

**11/65 PARISH PLAN**

To be discussed further when Richard Walker is present.

**11/66 HI SPEED BROADBAND – MR S RHENIUS**

Mr Steve Rhenius reported on the installation of high speed broadband and his attendance at a meeting run by County Broadband. Mr Rhenius will prepare a short report and circulate to all.

**11/67 POLLING STATION REVIEW**

Noted.

**11/68 PROPOSED WIND FARM AT CLARE**

The letter from Favell Perry (STOC) was read out. It was agreed that Debbie would write to St Edmundsbury Borough Council as suggested.

**11/69 FINANCE**

The financial report had been circulated and was agreed. Proposed by Hazel and seconded by Steve, all in favour.

**11/70 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Not required.

**11/71 TIME, DAY AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 3 November 2011 at 7.30pm in the Community Rooms, The Street, Birdbrook. The meeting closed at approximately 8.33pm.

It was agreed (proposed by Steve and seconded by Derek, all in favour) to reconvene the meeting briefly to consider the quotes received for repair and maintenance of parish benches.

**11/72 QUOTES FOR BENCH REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE**

Two quotes from Oscar Pickess and James Bolton were circulated. Debbie will ask Oscar to quote for oiling of the benches also. It was agreed to await receipt of the third quote before a decision is reached.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 8.41pm.

Signed: .....

Dated: .....